

I think it is very natural. I remember I used to be amused at Occidental with the rah rah rah for Occidental, and how superior we were to all the other schools around. All that.

But people grow into that so speedily. I remember my first or second year they had what they called the YMCA there. It was a religious or semi-religious meeting, that the students would come together in and have different types of programs. This was at the beginning of the year. One fellow said, I live just a block from Relands University, so he said, I came to Occidental. He said, I know what Relands is like.

The next one gets up and says, I live near Pomona. I saw enough of that place while I was in high school. Then the college paper said, Pomona, Relands, etc. they would have been quite upset if they could have heard the statements of students entering Occidental. I thought how very silly. But an extreme loyalty to secondary things is silly, but equally silly is some == is ~~because~~ because of some minor thing taking a bitter attitude of antagonism toward it.

It is very sad -- you take most churches that when they want a new minister, it's how nice does he speak. And what does he look like? How pleasant is his wife? These are the things rather than what he really knows, and how loyal he really is to the Lord, that people make their decision on, as a rule in calling him. It's just a weakness of human nature.

But this conservative bunch you asked about, why people become loyal to secondary objectives it's a natural human tendency. I don't know if this is true, but once I said, I would not be surprised if people could be generally divided into 3 groups, about 80% simply accept what they have been given and unthinkingly taking whatever they have been thrown with or the influences that have been brought to bear on them. Then maybe there is 10% that unthinkingly reject most everything that comes their way. And not more than 10% that think things through and try to decide what is best, what is right on a reasonable basis.

It is necessary for the cohesion of society you might say, the natural conservative attitude. But it's never been my attitude. It is a thing that has puzzled me. I'm naturally skeptical. One reason I got through Occidental was I was so skeptical of the theories I was presenting. I could see more flaws in what they were presenting than they could point out in Christianity.

I'm naturally skeptical, and yet I've never had any period of doubt of the essential features of Christianity. I've sometimes been a bit surprised at that one exception to my general attitude. I'm always, whatever anybody says, particularly the more positive they say it, the more determined I am to think through whether it is right or not.

I believe it is necessary human beings being what they are that a generally conservative attitude is necessary I've been sorry that it's been necessary for me usually to be labeled as a conservative. I believe in Christianity not because it has been